Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 2862 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 30 MAR

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PASS ERDA FOR SIEVERING

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USIRJC, TECH, IR

SUBJ: US NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH IRAN

REF: STATE 56748

1. SCIATT CONFERRED MARCH 30 WITH DR ETEMAD OF AEOI WITH REGARD TO FOLLOW-UP OF AGREEMENTS, OR LACK THEREOF, IN FIELD OF NUCLEAR ENERGY AT WASHINGTON MEETING OF US-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION. IN VIEW DR ETEMAD, ALL PROGRESS HANGS UPON CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY. HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: (1) KEY IRANIAN QUARREL WITH DRAFT AGREEMENT IS NECESSITY TO AGREE WITH US ON LOCATION WHERE REPROCESSING OF SPENT FUEL TAKES PLACE. (2) GOI ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT LIMITATION ON IMPORT OF ENRICHED URNAIUM FROM US TO QUANTITY NEEDED FOR IRANIAN NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM (A PROBLEM ONLY IF GOI DECIDES TO INVEST IN UEA ENRICHMENT PLANT AND SHARE CORRESPONDINGLY IN ITS OUTPUT). (3) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHER POINTS AT ISSUE IN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT ARE MINOR AND SHOULD BE

EASY TO RECONCILE, BUT HE STATED GOI GENERALLY RESISTANT TO ACCEPTING SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS BEING PROPOSED BY US, ALTHOUGH HE PERSONALLY UNDERSTANDS OUR MOTIVATION. (4) HE BELIEVES THESE RESTRICTIONS PLACE US SUPPLIERS AT A DIS-ADVANTAGE IN COMPETING FOR NUCLEAR POWER PROJECTS AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. HIS STAFF HAS COMPLETED DETAILED STUDY OF US DRAFT FOR AGREEMENT, AND DR ETEMAD WILL TRANSMIT HIS COMMENTS TO US WITHIN EXT FEW DAYS. HE HOPES ERDA TEAM WILL BE PREPARED TO COME TO TEHRAN TO DISCUSS DRAFT SOME TIME IN PERIOD APRIL 20-30. DR ETEMAD WILL BE AWAY FROM IRAN DURING NEXT 12 DAYS AND WILL BE UNABLE TO MEET ERDA TEAM BEFORE THEN. ERDA MAY WISH TO INDICATE SPECIFIC DATES DURING APRIL 20-30 PERIOD WHICH WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO ITS TEAM. HELMS UNQTE KISSINGER

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